



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

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*86 Chambers Street  
New York, New York 10007*

November 9, 2020

**BY ECF**

The Honorable Ronnie Abrams  
United States District Judge  
United States District Court  
40 Foley Square  
New York, New York 10007

Re: *N.Y. Civil Liberties Union v. Office of Refugee Resettlement, et al.*, 20 Civ. 5573 (RA)

Dear Judge Abrams:

This Office represents the defendants, the Office of Refugee Resettlement (“ORR”), the Administration for Children and Families (“ACF”), and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) (collectively “Defendants”) in this action arising under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”). I write respectfully on behalf of Defendants and plaintiff New York Civil Liberties Union (“Plaintiff”) to provide the joint status update due today pursuant to the Court’s October 14, 2020 Order. Dkt. No. 18 at 2 (memo endorsement).

Since the parties’ last update, Defendants have performed all of the follow-up searches for records responsive to Plaintiff’s FOIA request that were described in the parties’ previous letter. *See* Dkt. No. 17 at 1. As Defendants reported to Plaintiff, those searches returned a very large volume of records with a preliminary page count in the hundreds of thousands of pages. In response to that, Plaintiff has proposed narrowed versions of these searches in the hope that they will return a more manageable volume of records for processing and Defendants are in the process of submitting those searches. Because the searches are expected to take multiple weeks to complete, the parties respectfully propose that they submit another joint status letter by December 4, 2020, in which they update the Court on their progress and the parties request that the status conference scheduled for November 13, 2020, *see* Dkt. No. 18 at 2, be adjourned to the earliest date after December 4, 2020, that is convenient for the Court.

The parties thank the Court for its consideration of this submission.

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Respectfully,

AUDREY STRAUSS  
United States Attorney

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cc: Counsel for Plaintiffs (by ECF)

Application granted. The conference scheduled for Friday, November 13, 2020 is hereby adjourned until December 8, 2020 at 1:30 pm. The parties shall submit a joint status letter no later than December 4, 2020. SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'RA', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ronnie Abrams, U.S.D.J.  
November 10, 2020